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Your essential daily news | thursday, January 14, 2016

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00



SNOW CLEARING DEBATE

Storm of complaints returns



Zane Woodford Metro | Halifax

In a sure sign that winter is here in Halifax, the snow clearing debate returned to City Hall on Wednesday.

Council's committee of the whole was debating the chief administrative officer's proposed budget at the meeting, but the issue of snow clearing took centre stage.

It's the first year that performancebased contractors have been responsible for plowing in some districts, and councillors received a deluge of complaints after Wednesday morning's storm.

Coun. Matt Whitman said that means the city needs to do a better job of communicating service standards.

"You can't complain until 12 hours on a main street and 24 hours on a side street," he said outside the meeting.

Coun. Tim Outhit said those standards — and the practice of performance-based contracting in some areas — are to blame.

"Hundreds of people are used to being able to get out to work and now suddenly because we've changed how we do plowing, they can't get out to work? That's not right," he said.



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METENS

Your essential daily news

Will England bid goodbye to "God Save the Queen" anthem? World

POLICE

Man's indecent act in university library

This is one for the books: Police are investigating an indecent act they said happened on Saturday afternoon in a university library.

Around 2:25 p.m., Halifax Regional Police said two women



The suspect is described as a white man, 35 to 45 years old, 5 feet 7 inches, with a medium build. He was wearing a dark or grey tuque, blue jeans and a coat at the time.

were on the second floor of the Patrick Power Library at Saint Mary's University when a man they didn't know sat at their table for a brief time.

He walked away, but a few minutes later one of the women looked up and saw the man standing by an aisle of books while masturbating.

Police said the woman yelled at the man, and he left. She told Saint Mary's security about the incident, who then contacted police.

The woman was not able to speak with police until Tuesday night to give a statement, the release said. METRO



POLITICS LEADERS TALK PRIORITIES Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks with Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil during their meeting on Parliament Hill Wednesday. It was McNeil's first meeting with Trudeau since he became PM. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

REAL ESTATE

Housing market holds steady: Study

The survey found

the average price of a home in

Halifax rose 2.2 per cent to \$305,688.



The number of homes available for sale in Halifax is helping create a buyer's market.

That's one of the findings of the Royal LePage House Price Survey and Market Survey Forecast released Wednesday.

The survey also found the average price of a home in Halifax remained steady in the fourth

quarter of 2015, rising 2.2 per cent to \$305,688.

When broken down by housing type, the average price of a condo increased 4.8 per cent year-over-year to \$300,184, while the average price of a two-storey home rose 2.6 per cent to \$346,435. Bungalows only rose

0.2 per cent.
Looking forward
to 2016, Royal LePage forecasts a
year-over-year price
increase of 2.5 per

the Halifax region. Nationally, in the fourth quarter the price of a home in Canada increased

cent for homes in

6.5 per cent year-over-year to \$500,688.

department budgets

CAO spending to rise, three offices see decreases



Zane Woodford Metro|Halifax

Halifax regional council's committee of the whole voted at its meeting Wednesday to approve budget increases for two departments, and decreases for three others.

Council votes on

Proposals from the office of the chief administrative officer and legal, insurance and risk management services both asked for bigger budgets for the 2016-17 fiscal year than they had this year.

The CAO's budget includes its office, the mayor's office, the councillors support office, the corporate communications office and more. Overall, it asked for a modest increase of \$75,300.

For the office of the CAO itself, it asked for an increase of \$119,800 — about 17 per cent of its budget.

Executive assistant Steven Higgins told the committee Wednesday that the increase is due to a position transfer from another department under the CAO's budgetary umbrella.

Human resources, finance and information communication technology, and the office of the auditor general all asked for decreases in their budgets.

Some councillors thanked auditor general Larry Munroe for the work he's done since the inception of the office.



The auditor general's office will present its annual report to council in May or June of this year, which will be Munroe's last in the position.

"It's really been value for money as far as I'm concerned," said Coun. Gloria McCluskey.

"I'm not about to make any decision to cut your budget at



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Carleton 'worth saving'

ENTERTAINMENT

Music bar launches crowdfunding campaign



Halev Ryan Metro | Halifax

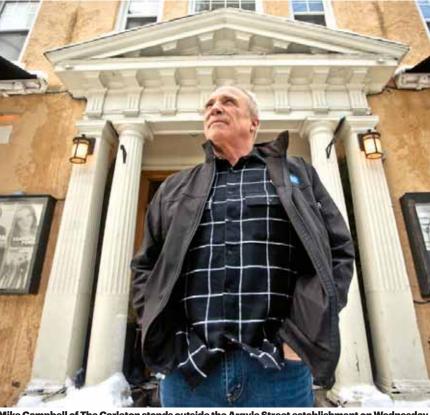
The Carleton Music Bar & Grill is turning to crowdfunding in the hopes that supporters of live music help out the venue before it's too late.

With at least a 30 per cent dip in business thanks to low foot traffic and months of Nova Centre construction with a year left to go, owner Mike Campbell launched the campaign Wednesday in the hopes of raising funds and reminding Haligonians how much talent is drawn through The Carleton's doors.

"People ... aren't inclined to miss something until it's gone all of a sudden, and everybody goes, 'How did that happen? Campbell said Wednesday.

"We live in a place that has an embarrassment of riches when it comes to talent," he said. "If they have nowhere to play, then all that's going to evaporate as well."

Campbell said instead of other funding sites, the Pat-



Mike Campbell of The Carleton stands outside the Argyle Street establishment on Wednesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

reon model of users becoming "patrons" by giving directly to the venue on an automatic,

monthly basis seemed perfect. He's hoping lots of people giving \$5 or \$10 a month until

the Nova Centre is complete next January, with a goal of

\$5,000 per month that can

Suddenly there'll be no entertainment here and it's like. 'Well I guess we'll go to the Lower Deck to hear **Barrett's Privateers** again'.

Mike Campbell

provide a "cushion" for any downturns as the bar enters typically slower winter months.

"I don't want to take the chance that something happens and suddenly we're in trouble and we can't react to it," Campbell said.

Like many others downtown, Campbell said he's upset with the city for not having mitigating plans in place before construction began, such as water being turned off for two days at The Wooden Monkey, or streets shut down leading to zero compensation.

Although Campbell said he at first didn't want to start a crowdfunding campaign, lots of supporters and artists from around Canada and the world urged him to do whatever it takes to keep the listeningroom venue open, adding some musicians might not even tour Atlantic Canada without The

Carleton's appeal.

In return, Campbell said
he'll work out incentives like free dinners, audio recordings of shows, T-shirts an other perks, while hoping the campaign spreads far beyond Halifax to live music fans everywhere.

"Around the world there's probably a lot of people that go, 'You know what? That's worth saving,'" Campbell said.

Artists

comment on venue

The Carleton campaign also includes a video featuring popular Halifax and Canadian artists talking about what the space means to them, and urging everyone to support the bar:

Joel Plaskett: "It's so awesome. Mike does such a great job with local music, it's without a doubt one of the finest clubs in Canada and North America.'

Jenn Grant: "It's such an amazing venue for Halifax and for the rest of the world, for artists to come and have a listening venue to play at."

Matt Minglewood: "Music rooms like The Carleton in Halifax, where an artist and an audience can experience an intimate evening, they're a rare thing.'

Adam Baldwin: "It's a unique place in Halifax and probably a unique place in this country.'

Lennie Gallant: "It's got a great vibe, wonderful staff, excellent sound, but probably the biggest reason I love playing there is because of the boss ... He treats musicians with a great deal of respect.'

July Talk: "If there's anything you personally can do ... please

HALEY RYAN/METRO



Joel Plaskett on stage at The Carleton. METRO FILE PHOTO

Iravel

Deals

🛟 KEEPING MUSIC ALIVE ON ARGYLE STREET

It's like becoming an art patron, councillor says

One Halifax politician says he's happy to see The Carleton tapping its support base to keep music alive on Argyle Street.

Waye Mason, councillor for downtown Halifax, said Wednesday that owner Mike

Campbell continues to do an exceptionally hard thing in the city by hosting live music not strictly aimed at college students.

"That's always been difficult," Mason said. "It may need to be supported more along the lines of a charitable giving situation or being a patron of the arts the same way you'd support Neptune or the theatre."

Mason asked for a staff report with plans on mitigating construction around the Nova Centre last year, and although many business owners say it's long overdue, that is expected to come to

Halifax regional council in January.

Crowdfunding is an interesting experiment for the venue, which he loves, Mason added. "I hope they find a way to be successful, especially as the convention centre finally is almost going





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Impaired drivers a big problem

There are still an alarming

amount of people that are

wheel and driving.

Sgt. Leanne MacDonald

impaired and getting behind the

ROAD SAFETY

More than **1,100** people arrested last year: RCMP



Yvette d'Entremont Metro | Halifax

Although police and advocacy groups regularly hammer home the dangers of impaired driving, the message is still missing its mark with many.

Last year RCMP arrested more than 1,100 Nova Scotians for impaired driving. Of those, 1,048 were charged with impaired driving and 84 were charged with operating a motor vehicle while

impaired by drug.
Nova Scotia RCMP released the 2015 statistics on Wednesday, calling the numbers ʻalarming.

They also issued 561 licence suspensions, which can vary from 24 hours to

"There are still an alarming amount of people that are impaired and getting behind the

wheel and driving," said Sgt. Leanne MacDonald with Nova Scotia RCMP Traffic services.

'We had over 1,100 Nova Scotians making poor decisions to be impaired and

These numbers were comparable to last year's statistics, which saw 1,023 people charged with impaired driving and 84 charged with operating a motor vehicle while impaired by drug.

MacDonald said RCMP

members did want to thank citizens who called 911 to report suspected impaired drivers on Nova Scotia's roadways in 2015. She asked anyone who spots a suspected impaired driver to call 911 and provide the location of the vehicle in addition to a description and a license plate number if possible.

"People can also volunteer to be designated drivers or try and stop their friends or family members from making that poor decision," she said.

"Road safety is everyone's responsibility."

Drivers are also reminded that alcohol isn't the only substance that can result in an impaired driving charge.

'We are talking impaired by drug as well, including prescription drugs and even some of the over-the-counter

with impaired operation of a motor vehicle in 2015

in areas patrolled by Halifax Regional Police, according to regional police spokeswoman Dianne Woodworth

medications," MacDonald said.

"There is that warning 'Do not drive or do not operate a motor vehicle while taking this medication."

🛑 N.S. NEWS

Deal bolsters training for shipbuilding apprentices

British Columbia and Nova Scotia have signed an agreement affecting shipbuilding industries in both provinces. It strengthens workforce co-operation and trades training between the regions. It recognizes the training requirements for the shipbuilding and marine industries and commits both provinces to developing new ways to teach apprentices.

It also reduces the red tape that makes it harder for apprentices to get certified and get jobs.

Nova Scotia's acting Minister of Labour and Advanced Education Karen Casey says the partnership will help businesses build exports and take advantage of spinoff opportunities on both coasts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nova Scotia murder case to air on American TV

An American cable network program is scheduled to show its account of how Cape Breton Regional Police solved the 1992 murder of a Sydney convenience store clerk.

Murder Book on the Investigation Discovery network is slated to show the episode entitled Mr. Big Thursday night. The title is a reference to a police sting operation which ended with the arrest of Ernest Gordon Strowbridge charged with the murder, nearly 11 years later. The murder occurred early morning March 22, 1992 as Marie Lorraine Dupe was working her first backshift at Big Ben's Convenience Store on Prince Street. She was stabbed more than 40



William Sandeson, charged with murder of a Dalhousie student, in court Oct. 27. A judge will decide whether there's enough evidence to go to trial. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dates set as murder hearings continue

ed for a preliminary inquiry in the case of a 23-year-old medical student charged with the murder of a fellow Dalhousie University student in Halifax.

William Sandeson appeared in a Halifax courtroom Wednesday via a video link from the Burnside jail.

The young bearded man and former varsity track athlete said little as he sat at one end of a long table, dressed in a prison-issue orange, shortsleeved shirt.

At a previous focus hearing in November, six days spread over three months were selected for the preliminary hearing, which will determine if there is enough evidence to warrant a trial.

However, Crown prosecutor Susan MacKay and defence lawyer Eugene Tan agreed Wednesday to extend the hearing to eight days, all of them in February.

As with the previous focus hearing, all evidence presented in court is protected by a publication ban.

Sandeson is charged with first-degree murder in the death of 22-year-old Taylor Samson, a physics student at Dalhousie.

The charge was laid Aug. 20, four days after Samson was reported missing in Hali🚹 INQUIRY

Number of witnesses to be determined

The Crown agreed Wednesday to take part in another focus hearing Jan. 18 to determine how many witnesses will appear at a preliminary inquiry.

fax. His body has yet to be found.

Police have said the two men knew one another.

A search warrant document describing some of the circumstances in the case was obtained by three media outlets before it was sealed by a judge.

They reported that the document alleges Samson was involved in a drug deal involving marijuana before his death.

Investigators subsequently searched two properties in Sandeson's hometown of Truro, saying they discovered several items of interest.

After the earlier focus hearing in November, Tan said outside the courtroom that the case against his client is largely circumstantial, which is why he was initially seeking to have up to 25 witnesses testify at the preliminary inquiry.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawsuit alleges abuse at two schools for the deaf

A Halifax law firm has filed a statement of claim in Nova Scotia Supreme Court alleging systemic sexual, physical and mental abuse against children who attended two segregated residential schools in the province.

Lawyer Ray Wagner says it's an important step in a proposed class action lawsuit that still needs to be certified by a judge before proceeding to trial

The schools named are the School for the Deaf in Halifax and the Interprovincial School for the Education of the Deaf

The Nova Scotia government

has also been named as a defendant in allegations that have not been proven in court.

The claim alleges the province, which was responsible for the operation and oversight of

the institutions, chose not to properly investigate or stop the abuse and mistreatment of the children, and that its actions constitute negligence and breach of fiduciary duty. THE CANADIAN PRESS metr®NEWS | Halifax Thursday, January 14, 2016 | \$



Lifang Gao, right, and her daughter Dodo make their first snowman after an overnight blanketing of snow on Wednesday. The city received as much as 20 centimetres. JEFF HARPER/METRO

City intact after major snowfall

WEATHER

Environment Canada eyeing possible storm this weekend



As people dig out from a storm that dumped as much as 20 centimetres of snow in the Halifax area on Wednesday, Environment Canada is looking at a system that could bring more bad weather this weekend.

"We are keeping an eye on something that could be affecting us on Saturday, but in terms of details, we'll have to see over the next two days where that takes us," said Environment Canada meteorologist Tracey Talbot.

"It's a little too early to tell what kind of weather this will actually bring. It's flip-flopping back and forth between a rain event versus a snow event"

A sidewalk plow clears a path from the storm. JEFF HARPER/METRO

The first significant 2016 blast of winter closed Halifax-area schools and forced university and community college campuses as well as some government offices to either close or delay opening their doors.

The storm also impacted travel, with delays and cancellations at the airport and some bus routes resorting to snow plan schedules.

The Nova Scotia Department of Transportation reported mid-morning that highways in and around the Halifax area were snow covered and passable with caution.

By late afternoon those roadways were still partly snow-covered.

Despite the messy weather, Halifax Regional Police reported few accidents.

"It was very quiet actually ... There were only two motorvehicle collisions overnight, property damage only," said Halifax Regional Police spokeswoman Const. Dianne Woodworth.

Municipal officials said snow removal efforts had gone well and they didn't expect snow removal issues to impact Thursday morning's commute.



A pedestrian speaks to a Halifax Transit bus driver waiting for a tow after getting stuck at the corner of Spring Garden Road and South Park Street. JEFF HARPER/METRO

"The storm ended in all areas by 8:30 a.m. so that's when the clock starts ticking on our service standards," Halifax Regional Municipality spokeswoman Jennifer Stairs said late Wednesday afternoon. "For the residential side streets it is 24 hours from the end of the snowfall so certainly we are well on track to have all that work done within the 24-hour period."

The winter parking ban will continue to be enforced from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. on Thursday.

Residents are reminded that HRM is stepping up winter parking enforcement this season in areas around hospitals, schools, bus routes and problem streets for snow equipment and emergency vehicles. Officers will also be ticketing vehicles obstructing sidewalk clearing.

249

Police and parking enforcement officials in the Halifax area issued 249 tickets during the overnight parking ban on Wednesday. The last time the ban was in place, 234 tickets were issued.

Circus training raises bar on fitness

Just ahead of circus artist Andralyn Zayn's debut on the bungee trapeze, she miscommunicated with a technician in dress rehearsal and did a doublefront flip straight into the bar.

Doctors didn't diagnose a concussion, so she slathered on enough makeup to hide the cylinder-shaped bump on her

'There are no breaks, and your body isn't your own," said Marissa Gough, 33, one of Zayn's circus partners.

Gough, Zayn, and her husband, Duane Steel, run a troupe called Deflying Fitness and travel across Canada and internationally training participants in circus-inspired physical feats for exercise.

Circus-inspired fitness is part of a larger movement with established roots in Canada. A trend including hundreds of circus schools, troops and offshoot ventures emerged from the rising popularity of Cirque du Soleil,

"I'd think that within the last 10 years we saw that growing slowly but surely," said Christophe Rousseau, communications director for Ecole nationale de cirque. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Andralyn Zayn and Marissa Gough show how to do a handstand. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Short-term digs for refugees

LOGISTICS

Temporary housing on tap for newcomers

Thousands of Syrian refugees expected in Canada in the coming days could spend up to two weeks in temporary accommodations.

Those conditions will still be better than what people have left behind in Jordan, Lebanon or Turkey, where nearly all of the Syrian refugees coming to Canada are currently living, said Immigration Minister John McCallum.

When the current resettlement program was rolled out in November, the government said incoming refugees would spend a couple of nights in hotels near the airport before transiting on to their final destinations. For those with private sponsors, there would likely be homes ready but what would happen with government-assisted refugees — those whose costs are covered entirely by government was always a question mark.

Ordinarily, those refugees are welcomed by settlement agencies that run temporary housing facilities, and they stay there for a few weeks before a permanent home is found.

But those organizations always had concerns that the sheer volume of Syrians would overwhelm those facilities, a fear that's now become a reality as the Liberals work towards bringing 25,000 people to Canada by the end of February.

The groups are providing daily feedback to the government on the number of beds they have available but at least three military bases are expected to be mobilized in the coming weeks to help house thousands of people.

Though government-organized flights of refugees will continue to land almost daily, the government's focus is now shifting to how to ensure the newly arrived are settling in as well as they can once those permanent homes are found.

Along with housing challenges, there is the reality of weaving thousands of new people into their new communities.

Ordinarily, refugees are given extensive predeparture briefings to orient them to life in Canada, covering everything from the weather to bank machines, but those efforts were jettisoned

Target contribution from corporations sought by Immigration Minister John McCallum to help with settlement costs. Of that figure, \$20 million has already been raised.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

for this program in order to get people here faster. So all of that needs to be done now. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pepper-spray attack victim still grateful

Ahmad Hwichan grimaces as he talks about coughing up blood and hearing children screaming in the aftermath of last week's pepper-spray attack in Vancouver.

The newly arrived government-sponsored refugee from Syria was one of about a dozen people sprayed by a man on a bicycle outside a welcome ceremony 10:30 p.m. on Friday.

Despite the suffering, the incident has failed to temper the enthusiasm and gratitude Hwichan and other refugees feel toward their adopted country and its citizens.

"This doesn't change my point of view of Canada. It will never change," Hwichan said through a translator on Tuesday, four days after the attack. "This was probably one guy who was drunk or, I don't know, crazy."

He added in English without the help of a translator: "I love you Canada so much."

The pepper spraying prompted universal condemnation from political leaders, including Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson, B.C. Premier Christy Clark and

Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan.

Syrian refugee Youssef Ahmad al-Suleiman, also hit in the attack, recounted how he and his fellow newcomers were stunned after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau took to Twitter and apologized on behalf of himself and the Canadian people.

"We're not used to this back home in our own country," al-Suleiman said, using a translator. "(Syrian President) Bashar al-Assad killed around 300,000 people and did not apologize once. Canada stays Canada — Canada of dreams. One individual does not represent the whole Canadian people."

Al-Suleiman recalled seeing a man wearing a helmet cycle up to their group outside a Muslim Association of Canada centre for a bus to return to their residence. The man sprayed something once or twice toward the crowd and quickly left, he said.

Vancouver police spokesman Sgt. Randy Fincham has said officers are investigating Friday's incident as a hate crime. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Refugees Ahmad Hwichan, centre, and his sons Louai, left, 11, and Qusai, right, 8, at a Vancouver hotel they're living in temporarily. Ahmad was with a group of other newcomers at a welcoming ceremony Friday when a man on a bike pepper-sprayed them. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

2015

SUPREME COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA THE TORONTO-DOMINION BANK - and -SHELLIE LYNN MARSHALL

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NICHOLAS C.G. MOTT Cox & Palmer

Canadian gets four years' jail

A Canadian man has been sentenced in Vietnam to four years in jail for abusing teenage boys.

. Vadim Scott Benderman, 45, formerly of Montreal, admitted during his half-day trial on Wednesday that he lured four boys into his home in Hanoi and paid them between \$10 and \$15 to have sex, according to a Hanoi court official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A judge sentenced Benderman to four years in prison and ordered he be expelled from the country after serving



Charity tipped off police

Michael Brosowski, founder of the Blue Dragon Children's Foundation, which helps homeless and trafficked minors in Vietnam, said Benderman's arrest was partly the result of investigations by his staff. THE CANADIAN PRESS

his sentence, the official said. Michael Brosowski, founder of the Blue Dragon Children's

Foundation, which helps homeless and trafficked minors in Vietnam, said in 2014 several boys told his foundation's social workers they had been abused by a foreigner whom they called Ben or Dan.

He said his charity provided a lawyer, Van Ta, who represented the four boys, who were between 13 and 15 years old.

The Hanoi court official said Benderman admitted that he abused each boy from one to three times over a period of several months until his arrest last June. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Suicide bomber a refugee

Syrian who attacked tourists had ties to ISIL

The suicide attacker who detonated a bomb that killed 10 German tourists in the heart of Istanbul's historic district had registered as a refugee just a week earlier, Turkish officials said Wednesday, raising questions over

whether extremists are posing as asylum-seekers to inflame anti- This person was not Ahmet Davutogimmigrant sentiment in Europe.

Turkish aufied the assailant

in Tuesday's attack as a Syrian man who was born in 1988, and said he was affiliated with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). Turkish media, including some close to the government, identified him as Nabil Fadli and said he was Saudi-born. The extremist group has not so far claimed the attack.

Meanwhile, Turkish police arrested five people suspected of direct links to the bomb attack which took place just steps from the historic Blue Mosque in Istanbul's storied Sultanahmet district. The suspects were not identified.

The bomber had recently entered Turkey, authorities said, and Interior Minister Efkan Ala confirmed reports he had registered with an Istanbul branch of the Migration Management Authority, providing fingerprints that allowed officials to quickly identify him. Ala said the bomber wasn't on any Turkish or international watch lists for ISIL militants.

"This person was not some-

one who was being monitored," Prime Minister

"It is a person who entered thorities identi- Turkish PM Ahmet Davutoglu normally, as a refugee, as an

asylum-seeker."

someone who was

being monitored.

The attack wounded 15 people, including nine Germans and citizens of Norway, Peru and South Korea. Six of the victims remained hospitalized on Wednesday.

Although not as deadly as two attacks in Turkey last year that were blamed on ISIL, Tuesday's bombing had heightened resonance because it struck at Turkey's \$30 billion tourism industry, which has already suffered from a steep decline. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS







FRENCH ATTACKS

Paris café reopens its doors

With the blood and bullets now swept away, the Carillon café reopened its doors Wednesday for the first time since it was among the Paris sites targeted by Islamic extremists in November.

The French capital is trying to revive tourism and commerce after the attacks that cost 130 lives and cast a shadow of fear over the city. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 Patrons sit on the terrace of the Carillon café, one of sites of the Nov. 13 terror attacks in Paris that killed 15 people.

People gather outside the Carillon café on Wednesday — its reopening day.

A barman serves drinks to patrons at the café. ALL PHOTOS: AFP/GETTY IMAGES

NATIONAL IDENTITY

U.K. to debate fate of 'God Save the Queen'

British lawmakers agreed Wednesday to consider replacing the royalist song that serves as England's anthem at sporting events.

"God Save the Queen" is the national anthem of the United Kingdom — made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland - and is played at the Olympics and other events where the U.K. fields a single

At contests where the four areas compete separately, such as the soccer World Cup, England and Northern Ireland use "God Save the Queen," but Scotland and Wales have their own official songs - "Flower of Scotland" and "Land of My Fathers."

Labour Party lawmaker Toby Perkins said adopting an English anthem would "re-establish the idea that the United Kingdom is a union of four separate nations with their own identities."

Perkins told the House of Commons that "Jerusalem," regarded by many as England's unofficial anthem, was the most obvious choice. The song, whose words are by mystical 18th-century poet William Blake, vows to transform a country of "dark

satanic mills" into a "green and pleasant land" like the ancient England that, legend says, was once visited by Jesus Christ.

Opposing the motion, traditionalist Conservative legislator Jacob Rees-Mogg said an English anthem would divide Britain.

"What greater pleasure can there be for a true-born Englishman or true-born Englishwoman than to listen to our own national anthem?" Rees-Mogg said.

Lawmakers agreed to hold a full House of Commons debate in March on Perkins' bill, which calls on the government to con-



Prince William sings 'God Save the Queen' in September 2015. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

sult the public on a new anthem. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS

Global migration hits 15-year high

The majority of

migrants go to Europe, where 76 million migrants

called home in 2015 — two-thirds

of the total, un

The number of people who migrated to foreign countries surged by 41 per cent in the last 15 years to reach 244 million in 2015, according to a United Nations study released Tuesday. Of those people, 20 million are refugees. The UN is planning a series of meetings to address migration in 2016, including a March 30 gathering in Geneva where countries will be invited to pledge resettlement spots for Syrians fleeing civil war. But while the Syrian refugee crisis has gripped the world's attention, it is but a drop in the sea of international migration.

WHERE ARE THE **MIGRANTS GOING?**

The vast majority go to Europe, home to 76 million international migrants in 2015, or two-thirds of the total. By individual country, however, the United States had by far the largest portion of the world's migrants -47 million, or a fifth of the total. Germany and Russia shared the No. 2 spot with about 12 million each, followed by Saudi Arabia (10 million), and the United Kingdom (nine

WHERE ARE MIGRANTS COMING FROM?

The largest portion comes from Asia: about 104 million or 43 per cent. While Europe takes in the biggest number of migrants, it also contributes a large number: 62 million, or 25 per cent of the total. Latin America and the Caribbean was the third-largest region-

al source of international migration, with 37 million, or 15 per cent.

WHO ARE THEY?

They are almost equally divided by gender: 48 per cent are women. Not surprisingly, most are work-

ing-age. The median age of migrants in 2015 was 39. A significant portion — 15 per cent — were under 20 years old. But country populations will not get any younger as a result. The United Nations said international migrants can help ease old-age dependency ratios, but all major areas of the world are still projected to have significantly higher oldage dependency ratios in 2050. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Loonie closes below 70¢

Thursday, January 14, 2016

The Canadian dollar has closed below 70 cents U.S. for the first time in nearly 13 years. The loonie finished Wednesday at 69.71 cents U.S. The last time it closed this low was on April 30, 2003, when it was 69.76 cents US. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Al Jazeera America says it is shutting down

Cable news network Al Jazeera America says it will stop operating by April 30 just 2-1/2 years after its launch in August 2013. While it won some awards, not many people watched the channel.

Postmedia to cut costs faster and deeper

Postmedia Network Canada Corp. is accelerating and hiking its goal to cut costs as it continues to bleed advertising, print circulation and digital media revenue. It is aiming for cost reductions of \$80 million by mid-2017 - up from \$50 million in cuts by the end of 2017. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Corus buying Shaw's media division in deal worth \$2.65B

ing its media division to Corus Entertainment for \$2.65 billion — a deal that will help fund the telecom company's purchase of Wind Mobile.

Shaw Media includes the Global Television network and 19 specialty channels including HGTV Canada, Food Network Canada and Showcase — formerly part of the Canwest business group before it was split up.

Corus already owns a number of other specialty TV channels as well as a network of radio stations and the Nelvana animation studio.

Both companies are controlled by the Shaw family through its voting shares. Shaw Communications will become a large shareholder in Corus as a result of the deal, which involves both cash and shares.

It's the second major deal for Shaw Communications in recent weeks. It announced on Dec. 16 that it's buying Wind Mobile for \$1.6 billion.

After the deal closes, Shaw Communications will own about 39 per cent of the equity in Corus. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Corus Entertainment will acquire the Global Television network and 19 specialty channels including HGTV Canada, Food Network Canada and Showcase when it closes its deal to buy Shaw's media division. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Join the club, share a room

The number of

operate on the U.S. west coast

cities in which Winston Club will

including Seattle, Portland and Las

Service offers travellers option to split hotel cost

Want to stay at a five-star hotel in Los Angeles or San Francisco for half-price?

You can, but the only catch is you would have to share it with a stranger.

Welcome to Winston Club, a new website that launches service in March, taking the sharing economy to its literal sense.

"We are catering to travellers, often those who are selffunded, who enjoy the comforts of a four- or five-star hotel, but are looking

for a more economical price point," said Bryon Shannon, founder and CEO of the Seattle startup.

It plans to start in five cities on the U.S. west coast including Seattle, Portland and Las Vegas with a dozen hotels, though every room will have two beds, so there shouldn't be any scenes from the movie Planes, Trains and Automobiles.

Shannon concedes the idea of sharing a hotel room with a stranger is not for everyone, but argues people are more willing to try new things these days. "Companies in the sharing economy had a little bit of

pushback initially. With Uber it was jumping into a car, or with Airbnb, it's staying in a stranger's home," he said.

Winston Club acts like a travel agent, booking rooms with hotels, and taking a commission from the hotel. "No hotel

likes to have vacant rooms," he said. "This way, they get to sell more rooms at full price.' TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NOTICE

Consultative Process for Approval Under the **Environment Act**

This notice is a requirement in support of an application for approval under the Environment Act.

This is to advise that the Halifax Regional Municipality is proposing to expand the current use of the solid waste processing facility (located at 600 Otter Lake Drive, Otter Lake) to include the operation of a waste transfer station in accordance with the Environmental Act and the Activities Designation Regulations.

The proposed location of the activity is 600 Otter Lake Drive, Otter Lake, Halifax Regional Municipality. A portion of the existing infrastructure is proposed to be used as a transfer station. The purpose of the transfer station is to consolidate and transport waste to a Department of the Environment approved

The anticipated start date for the proposed project is April 1, 2016.

The deadline for submission of comments to the proponent is February 15, 2016.

For additional information or to provide comment please contact:

Solid Waste Resources, Halifax Regional Municipality PO Box 1749, Halifax NS B3J 3A5

Comments may also be sent to: Nova Scotia Environment, 30 Damascus Road, Suite 115 Bedford Commons, Bedford NS B4A OC1

HALIFAX

PRE-BUDGET TOUR

Economic woes tail Morneau

No matter where Bill Morneau has taken his pre-budget roadshow, the economic storm clouds have gathered overhead.

The federal finance minister's cross-country tour, created to consult Canadians as he crafts his first budget, has been overshadowed by the rapidly deteriorating economic situation.

On top of focusing on the new Liberal government's plans to help middle-income Canadians and spur economic growth, Morneau has had to explain the "considerable headwinds" that he acknowledges have "no quick, easy fixes."

Canada's commodity-heavy economy is suffering from a toxic combination of still-falling resources prices, mounting business and consumer pessimism and eroding fiscal conditions that are gnawing away at the government's bottom line.

"The challenges that we face today are real," Morneau told a business crowd Tuesday in Montreal.

Those obstacles include tumbling

crude-oil prices, a key determinant of government revenues and overall economic health. Canada has been struggling since

The price of crude oil this

week. Some analysts have warned it could fall to \$20 US per barrel.



Finance Minister Bill Morneau listens to panel discussion at the Munk School of Global Affairs in Toronto on Wednesday.

the late-2014 oil-price shock, which forced the economy to

contract over the first two quarters of 2015.

In late November, Morneau released a fall fiscal update that based its calculations using privatesector projections

calling for oil to average \$54 per barrel in 2016. The prediction seemed optimistic at the time;

This week, crude prices slid to \$30 US and some analysts have warned it could fall to \$20 US

The drop in oil prices has also dragged down the dollar, pushing it to about 70 cents US its lowest level since 2003.

But even as the low loonie drives up some consumer costs, like vacations abroad and supermarket prices, experts say that overall, it should help the economy, particularly when it comes to exporters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Your essential daily news



The decrease since 2004 in the proportion of Canadians who use cocaine or crack, according to Health Canada.

The crack epidemic in North American cities during the 1980s and '90s lined the pockets of Latin American drug lords such as El Chapo and Pablo Escobar because nearly all of the world's coca leaves (cocaine's raw material) are grown in Colombia, Bolivia and Peru. But for well over a decade now, cocaine has been losing its cool factor. In 2004, 1.9 per cent of Canadians said they'd used some form of cocaine in the past 12 months, but by 2012, the last year for which data is available, only 1.1 per cent said so. Although the war on drugs, and its accompanying crackdown on trafficking, likely had something to do with this, experts believe cocaine just kind of went out of style in addition to getting much more expensive relative to other drugs. Canadians are still getting high en masse, but more are popping prescription pills than packing pipes — although with marijuana soon to be legal, our habits may be about to shift again.

SOURCE: CANADIAN ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE MONITORING SURVEY

Air travel security policy shouldn't fly

Faisal Kutty and Mustafa Jilani

In the wake of the six-yearold caught in Canada's no-fly web, the government has promised to examine changes to the program. "(It's) no fault of their own," says Ralph Goodale, the minister of public safety, adding that false positives "can present feeling of stigma."

Awkwardness and stigma may not quite fully convey the extent of the impact for the hundreds or thousands on the list and those with similar names. Lost jobs, separation from family, fear,

Over the years, many have been caught in limbo.

anxiety and uncertainty are

The program introduced in 2007 created the Specified Persons Advisory Group (SPAG), which identified individuals who posed an "immediate threat" for inclusion on the Specified Persons List, which airlines are mandated to screen against. Once flagged, a Transport Canada official could authorize boarding, request extra screening or issue an "emergency direction" to prevent boarding.

A denied person could apply to the Office of Reconsideration. However, as evident from court documents in the Hani Al Telbani case, the office's power is only illusory. The office concluded that CSIS relied on "vague and incomplete" information and had no basis to add Al Telbani. The SPAG ignored the recommendation and kept him on the list.

been caught in limbo. Laureen Kinney, director general of aviation security at Transport Canada, testified to a 2010 parliamentary committee that there were about 850 false positives within the first three years.

Rather than addressing concerns, the Secure Air Travel Act (part of the anti-terror legislation passed last year) exacerbated them. It authorized the establishment of a list of people who the government has reasonable grounds to suspect will, with or without intent, threaten transportation security or commit a terror offence. This, along with other changes ushered in by SATA, ensured the list would quickly grow.

The new anti-terror legislation will also make it more difficult for anyone caught up in the no-fly list to find recourse. Under the new law,

ectly to the minister of public safety within 60 days to challenge a listing. This is akin to having the fox guard the

Ironically, as the U.S. eases up on its own lists in response to civil-rights lawsuits, the Canadian list is becoming more secretive, sweeping and less account-

Watch lists may serve a limited legitimate function, but they must be used cautiously. The government's appeal to national security should not exempt it from accountability, oversight and a meaningful redress mech-

Faisal Kutty is counsel to KSM Law in Toronto and an adjunct professor at Osgoode Hall law school. Mustafa Jilani is an associate at KSM Law.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

If El Chapo's devotion surprises you, it shouldn't.

If you slogged through Sean Penn's sometimes unintelligible ode to drug kingpin El Chapo in Rolling Stone magazine, you perhaps know a few more things than you used to.

Penn loves his own penis. Joaquín Archivaldo Guzmán Loera — or El Chapo, the world's most powerful drug trafficker — has charisma as well as the blood of thousands of Mexicans on his hands. And he believes in God.

In the interview, such as it was, El Chapo recounts asking God for help escaping from prison (he's since been recaptured). He thanks God that his mother is still alive and says he wants to be with his family for "the days God gives me."

If this devotion comes as a surprise to you — as it did to some — it shouldn't.

Drug traffickers across Latin America are typically religious, and Catholic, like just about all their neighbours.

"Latin America is the most Christian region on earth," says R. Andrew Chesnut, chair in Catholic studies at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond and an expert on Latin American religious history. Ninety per cent of Latin Americans are Christians, and 40 per cent of the world's Catholics live in Latin Amer-

It is Colombian traffickers who exported St. Jude - the patron saint of lost causes to Mexico, where he's now

widely popular, Chesnut says. Traffickers' faith is "not so

much about Christian morality," he says. Since the threat of death is everywhere, divine protection "is the most important function of both the . Catholic and folk saints popular among narcos."

That creates a fraught relationship, to say the least. On one hand, Latin American churches have been accused of money laundering, via cartels' donations or "narcolimosnas." Meanwhile, a slew of priests who publicly oppose drug cartels have been murdered in recent years.

Then there are folk saints, most notably Santa Muerte, figures not recognized by the Catholic Church but wildly popular among traffickers.

Saint Death is also known as a healer, a miracle worker and agent of prosperity, says Chesnut, who wrote a book on her. "If you're looking at narcos in Mexico, the most important religious figure for them is Santa Muerte.

That has made her "religious enemy No. 1" to the Mexican government, he adds, and a challenge to the church, too. But fighting the spread of beliefs is as hard as fighting the spread of drugs.

As for God's guiding hand in El Chapo's life, I imagine, in the drug lord's familiar old place behind bars, he's got a bone to pick with the Al-

an awkward situation" and "a

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DESIGN THE YOU LOVE LOVE

Design the Life You Love

Ayse Birsel is the creative director and principal of Birsel + Seck, the New York design studio she founded with her husband, Bibi Seck. Her book is a beautifully designed self-help manual filled with words (hand-printed by the author) and pictures (doodles, drawings, cartoons and comic strip/graphic novel panels, vision maps and other creative tools) that is fun to flip through and filled with creative ideas for designing your best life possible. In her introduction, Birsel says the workbook (she prefers, "playbook" to put the emphasis on fun) represents the "intersection of my design process, Deconstruction Reconstruction, and my biggest project, my life."

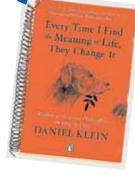
Whole new chapter

This is the time of the year to pull up your socks and be a better you. Here are books to inspire: physically, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DANIEL KLEIN

Every Time I Find the Meaning of Life, They Change It

Daniel Klein's new book began as a notebook titled Pithies, and contained thoughts from history's great philosophers. As a young man he hoped these notes on "how to live the best life" would offer direction. As an old man, he finds the quest useful, and expands on his longago pithies in hopes of helping others.



TOMI PREEDITOFF

The Diet Fix: Why Diets Fail and How to Make Yours Work

What would a new year be without a resolution to lose weight? It isn't so much a diet book as an anti-diet book. Yoni Freedhoff, an Ottawa doctor, examines why 90 per cent of diets fail, and offers common sense help with a 10-Day Reset that he says can change your relationship with food forever. Tall order. Nothing else has worked, so this might be worth a try.



NINE ESSENTIAL THINGS I'VE LEARNED ABOUT LIFE HAROLD S. KUSHNER

HAROLD S. KUSHNER

Nine Essential Things I've Learned About Life

Harold S. Kushner, an American rabbi, is the author of 1978's memorable When Bad Things Happen To Good People and his subsequent books have similarly dealt with faith's thornier questions. He writes for a general audience — which is to say you don't have to be Jewish to gain spiritual sustenance from what he has to say. His chapter titles draw you in.



WHOOPI GOLDBERG

If Someone Says, "You Complete Me," RUN!

Whoopi Goldberg has been married three times and had several other non-wedlock unions. She has concluded that finding the One isn't for her. So what can she tell us about managing a relationship? Plenty. Over 16 chapters, the actress, comedian and TV moderator, navigates the shoals of being with another.

NEW FROM SONJA LARSEN

Memoir of teenage rebellion with a red streak



From James Dean to Justin Bieber, rebellion has always been part of the teenage experience. Usually, it's no more dramatic than cutting the occasional math class or stealing a bottle from the liquor cabinet. But for Sonja Larsen, rebellion meant joining a radical left-wing political party and becoming the youngest member of its militia, an astonishing experience she

chronicles in her new memoir, Red Star Tattoo: My Life as a Girl Revolutionary, published by Random House Canada.

Mind you, Larsen did not come from the most conventional family. She spent many of her formative years living in communes with her hippie parents, where sex and drugs were far from taboo, and Larsen was encouraged to make all her own decisions. Now 50 years old, Larsen acknowledges that some readers will think her parents were neglectful, but in hindsight, she views the situation

lifferently.

"In the moment it was pretty empowering to be able to chose what I wanted to do, and to express myself," she says. "In the long run, my relationship with my parents was a sustaining force in that respect they had for me. They let me speak my mind and pursue the things I wanted to."

One thing that 16-year-old Larsen wanted to pursue on her own was moving to New York to join the National Labor Organization, a secret group preparing for the second American Revolution, led by the charismatic Gino Perente, known as the "Old Man." Larsen would soon become a mistress to Perente (later discovered to be a lifelong con man), which isn't even the most shocking situation that she would find herself in

For years, Larsen, who is now a youth worker on Vancouver's tough downtown Eastside, didn't share her past with friends, joking that "those stories are a bit hard to just drop into cocktail conversation. Let's talk about the year I didn't go outside."

She always knew that she wanted to write, but her own

story felt like a giant obstacle. It wasn't until she turned 40 that it felt like a "now or never" situation. "It really felt like if I started writing, I was going to write that story, and I wasn't sure, up until then, that I was ready," she says. "It would mean revealing a lot of other people's secrets and just being quite exposed and disloyal."

When she finally realized she needed to write to be happy, the biggest challenge Larsen faced was how to tell her story. In the end, she decided to keep it simple, a chronology of her early life told through personal memories.

"I didn't want to tell it backwards

with the insight I have now,"

"I wanted to tell it forward as the kid and the person that I was then, trying to figure everything out."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Hurley a natural as bawdy queen

THE SHOW: The Royals, Season 1 Episode 6, (E, Crave) **THE MOMENT: The Command**

Helena, Queen of England (Elizabeth Hurley), resplendent in a form-fitting peach lace dress, is upbraiding her new bodyguard in her boudoir. A lower-class American, he lied about his background. (And recently stopped having blackmail sex with her daughter, Princess Eleanor. But Helena is blithely unconcerned about that.)

"You've caught me on a good day, Bodyguard," Hurley says, in tones plummier than a plum tree. "I'm melancholy. I'm stressed. And I'm severely horny. Think you have what it takes to earn my silence?" He unknots his tie. "Don't let's get ahead of ourselves," she says. "Are you familiar with the expression, 'At Her Majesty's pleasure'?" She hikes up her hem, spreads her thighs. He kneels.

Not unlike dear Bodyguard,

this show is groin-deep in drugs and diamonds, fascinators and G-rated filth. In our age of political correctness, it revels in the phrase 'spoiled rotten.' The characters cannot behave badly enough. The princess is a fashion-plate junkie. The King's brother is a leering, polymorphously perverse ascot wearer. The prince and his bland American girlfriend are "good," and therefore extremely dull; their

But the show is Hurley, and she's a royal hoot. At least three times per episode, she announces that she's the Queen of England: "I'm the Queen of England, damn it!" "The Queen of England can't take time off to grieve." "But you're not the Queen of

storyline exists only to be fast-

forwarded through.



Elizabeth Hurley as Helena, Queen of England, in The Royals. CONTRIBUTED

England, are you? I am!" Hurley was born for this role. Even her lip gloss shimmers with glee.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

Fifty Shades shares lead for most Razzie nominations

Fifty Shades of Grey is all tied up with Pixels, Jupiter Ascending and Paul Blart Mall Cop 2 for the most nominations at this year's Golden Raspberry Awards celebrating the worst in cinema.

The films led the Razzies lineup Wednesday with six nods each, including worst picture and worst actor for Jamie Dornan in the sexy thriller Fifty Shades of Grey, Kevin James in the comedy sequel Paul Blart Mall Cop 2, Channing Tatum in the sci-fi film Jupiter Ascending and Adam Sandler in the video game mashup Pixels and fantasy-comedy The Cobbler.

The other worst picture nominee is the superhero flop Fantastic Four, which is also up for worst remake, screen combo, director for Josh Trank and screenplay for Šimon Kinberg, Jeremy Slater and Trank.

The announcement of the Razzies, which launched in 1980 as a spoof of Hollywood's awards season, comes



Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan both earned nominations for Fifty Shades of Grey. HANDOUT

nominations. The "winners" for the 36th annual Razzies will be announced Feb. 27, the night before the 88th annual Academy

Awards. They will be selected by 900 voting members from 47 states in the United States and 21 foreign countries.

While far less star-studded than other award shows, past recipients such as Halle

Channing Tatum vies for worst actor for his role in Jupiter Ascending. HANDOUT



Paul Blart Mall Cop 2 ties for most Razzie nods. HANDOUT

Berry and Sandra Bullock, have actually shown up in person to claim their gold spray-painted prizes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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No purchase necessary. One entry per person, per day, Contest open to residents of the provinces of Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia, who have attained the age of majority in their province of residence at the start of the Contest Period. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. There are two (2) pairs of front row tickets to Jeremy Hotz International Man of Misery in each market available to be won; as well as there is one (1) Grand Prize of a trip for two to the 2016 Montreal Just For Laughs Comedy Festival, which includes return two (2) first-class train tickets to Montreal (Business class in the Québec City-Windsor Corridor or Sleeper Plus class on long-haul trains), courtesy of VIA Rail Canada (departing from a major Canadian VIA Rail train station closest to the selected entrant's place of residence in Canada and returning to same departure station — transportation to and from VIA Rail train station not included), three (3) nights of hotel accommodations, courtesy of the Delta Montréal Hotel and tickets to Festival comedy shows. Approximate retail value of \$3,000 CDN (based upon departure from Vancouver, actual value may vary depending upon time and year of departure). Each selected entrant

must correctly answer, unaided, a mathematical skill-testing question to be declared a winner. Contest Period opens at 12:01 am ET on January 14, 2016 and closes at 11:59 pm ET on February 1, 2016. To enter and for complete contest rules visit metronews.ca/contests.

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Your essential daily news

'Broken Bowl" showcased through Maison & Objet's talents à la carte program

Eco-friendly in Dartmouth



CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

It's modern, luxury living in the heart of downtown Dartmouth. The Avery is soon to be complete, offering residents stunning views of Halifax Harbour with state-ofthe-art, eco-friendly condos.

In the neighbourhood

The Avery is close to everything an urbanite might need. It's easy to get to downtown Halifax or Dartmouth Crossing, Mic Mac Mall, or the airport. Right nearby, you'll find boutiques, trendy restaurants, and a relaxing walk up and down the scenic Dartmouth

Location and transit

Located at 25 Alderney Drive, The Avery is a hop and skip to Alderney Landing and the ferry, plus there's easy access to a multitude of transit buses serving downtown

Housing Amenities

It's worry-free living with secure underground parking, landscaping and snow removal. Plus there's a rooftop terrace for private events, a fully-furnished common room to host parties or meetings, and a fitness room and sauna. Inside the units, there is energy-efficient lighting, climate control, and other eco-friendly components.

🕂 NEED TO KNOW

What: The Avery

Developer: Annapolis Group **Builder:** Avondale Construction Architect: S.J. Keating Architect

Location: 25 Alderney Drive

Building: Condos

Building Envelope Consultants:

Zec Consulting Inc. **Sizes:** 686 sq.ft. To 1,774 sq.ft. **Pricing:** From \$259,900

Suites: A number of different combinations including studio with one bathroom, or three bedrooms plus den and three bathrooms.

Status: Planned completion

spring 2016

Sales centre: Belmont House (main level) 33 Alderney Drive,

Dartmouth Info: theavery.ca

WAYS TO MAKE YOUR MANTELPIECE A DECOR FOCAL POINT ALL YEAR

When January arrives, even Christmas-loving homeowners might be happy to put away Santa and his reindeer.

But the post-holiday mantel and fireplace can look strangelv bare.

A well-decorated fireplace - even without a wood-burning fire inside — can be the perfect source of cheerful style and warm glow throughout the first weeks of the new

Here, interior designer Cathy Davin, HGTV stylist Meg Allan Cole and interior designer Mallory Mathison share their ideas. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

winter theme

Davin believes in celebrating winter even after the holidays are over. She removes red poinsettias, but keeps white ones and white cyclamen around her fireplace. And she continues lighting white and gold candles on the mantel. She also encourages clients to keep tiny white lights in their living space for a warm glow throughout January.

2 Get crafty

Your mantel is the perfect place to get creative. Cole suggests seeking out craft projects that use votive candles (she offers some ideas at hgtv.com).

Look inside If you're not using your fire-

place for a fire, use that space decoratively by filling it with candles or other items. Just remember to keep things looking reasonably natural. "The 'go-to' is a bundle of clean, pretty birch logs that are arranged as if they are waiting to be lit," Mathison says. "I love to use andirons and then stack the birch logs in a pyramid." Some designers fill the firebox area with small bookshelves or other unexpected items. Mathison prefers not to: She thinks using decorative items that aren't made to be in a fireplace can "feel forced and contrived."



Running back Marshawn Lynch is back at practice but the Seahawks wouldn't confirm that he'll play Sunday against the Panthers

Mooseheads mentality

Ducharme talks overcoming loss, both on and off the ice



Kristen Lipscombe Metro | Halifax

Before he takes his place behind the bench, Dominique Ducharme would usually receive a short text message from his father, saying "go for the win," or something similarly supportive.

But on Dec. 29, the day Canada faced off against Switzerland at the world juniors, that message never came.

'He was always watching," the Halifax Mooseheads head coach, who was an assistant for Canada in Helsinki, said of Jacques Ducharme.

"He went to take a nap before the game, like he often did," Ducharme said, but "I didn't receive that text."

So Ducharme texted his father first, responding the way he normally would to his elder's words of wisdom.

It wasn't until the second intermission, tied 2-2, that Ducharme knew for sure something wasn't right. He found out following the game, a 3-2 shootout win for Canada, that



Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme at work on the ice. JEFF HARPER/METRO

his father had died in his sleep. "He was not sick at all,"

Ducharme said. "He was in pretty decent shape for a 68-year-old."

From their Joliette, Que., home, Ducharme's mother told her son to "finish it off" at the world juniors.

"That's what your dad would expect," Ducharme said of his mom's thoughts on whether or not he should stay with Team Canada.

"I think it would probably make him die a second time, if I would have left."

Canada's juniors were eliminated by the host nation in a 6-5 quarter-final loss Jan. 2. Hockey Canada put Ducharme on a flight home the next morning.

It was a difficult decision for the determined coach, an example of the passionate positivity he tries to instill in his players here in Halifax.

"It's about mentality, and the

identity that we have," Ducharme said of the approach his young Mooseheads need to adopt in the second half of their season.

The Mooseheads are currently in 17th place, second last in the QMJHL, as well as sixth and last place in the Maritimes Division.

With their most recent game a rough 7-3 loss Tuesday night to the Acadie-Bathurst Titan, the Mooseheads now have a 14-23-5-1 record on the 2015-16 season.

But as Ducharme has stated time and again, success isn't

🚹 IN EUROPE

Halifax Mooseheads equipment manager Chris MacDonald was also a staff member for Canada's junior at the 2016 world iuniors

Herd athletic therapist Diane Ouimet, meanwhile, claimed a gold medal with Canada's women's national development team at the 2016 Nations Cup, held earlier this month in Fussen, Germany.

always in the stats.

"We've been a team in the last four and a half years that ... we never give up, we compete," Ducharme said. "We're pushing our limits, whatever our limits are."

That attitude remains the same whether Halifax is in the midst of a tougher year such as this one, with several veterans recently dealt at mid-season deadline, or during the year that Ducharme led his Herd to the 2013 Memorial Cup.

Sticking to that mindset plants the seed for success, Ducharme said.

"Right now, the potential is not the same, but the mentality is the same," he said.

The Mooseheads will have a chance to manifest their mindset on Thursday night when they face off against the Quebec Remparts at Scotiabank Centre. Puck drop is at 7 p.m.

"We're challenging ourselves to get better," Ducharme said. "We want to get there."

IN BRIEF

Tigres toy with Armada

Alexandre Goulet scored four times to lead the Victoriaville Tigres past the Blainville-Boisbriand Armada 7-2 on Wednesday night in Quebec Major Junior Hockey League action.

Kyle Tibbo struck twice with Marc Beckstead adding a goal and two assists for the Tigres (20-15-7). Bradley Lalonde and Maxime Comtois both tacked on two assists. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Huskies overcome Phoenix

Bruno-Carl Denis scored the winner in the third period as the Rouyn-Noranda Huskies held off the Phoenix in Sherbrooke, Que.

Philippe Myers had a power-play goal late in the second for the Huskies (32-

Julien Bahl responded with a third-period goal for Sherbrooke (15-22-6).

Last-place Blue Jackets hand loss to Maple Leafs

Rookie Joonas Korpisalo made 41 saves as the lastplace Columbus Blue Jackets snapped a four-game losing skid with a 3-1 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs on Wednesday.

Korpisalo, 21, entered with just one win in six starts this season and was carrying a 3.69 goalsagainst average and .882 save percentage.

Boone Jenner, Alexander Wennberg and Brandon Dubinsky scored for the Blue Jackets. THE CANADIAN PRESS



We just want to challenge ourselves to be as good as we can be ... the way we think; that's us.

Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme

Mills Rats infiltrate Hurricanes' palace



Anthony Criswell, of the Halifax Hurricanes, centre, breaks through Saint John Mill Rats defenders Anthony Stover, left, and Gabe Freeman on Wednesday night at Scotiabank Centre.

The Halifax Hurricanes have lost their first home game

But it certainly wasn't for lack of trying.

The Canes fell 105-100 to the visiting Saint John Mill Rats on Wednesday. Halifax's reincarnated National Basketball League of Canada club now has six wins and two losses on the 2015-16 season.

Despite Wednesday's loss at the Scotiabank Centre, the Hurricanes still lead not just the Atlantic conference, but

also the entire league, in wins. The Mill Rats trail in second place regionally, with a 5-4 record overall.

From tip-off to final buzzer, Wednesday's game was competitive with the Hurricanes down 48-47 at halftime before taking a 79-73 lead after three

Forward Mike Glover put up 25 points and pulled down seven rebounds to lead the Hurricanes according to a news release issued by the Halifax club late Wednesday night.



Tip-off for Wednesday night's Halifax Hurricanes home game was delayed by an hour, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., after the Saint John Mill Rats bus broke down en route.

Forward Kyle Hunt was also a key player for the Canes, scoring 22 points and snagging 15 rebounds. Guard Justin

Johnson notched 18 points, while guard Joseph Bertrand added 17 of his own.

Forward Gabe Freeman notched 25 points and nabbed 14 rebounds, while guard Doug Herring Jr. put away 24 points, for the Mill Rats, the news release said.

The Hurricanes head out on a four-game road trip, starting with another game against the Mill Rats on Thursday in Saint John. They return home Ian. 28.

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO

14 Thursday, January 14, 2016 metr

SPORTS

Mended Manning good to go

NFL PLAYOFFS

Broncos pivot returns after layoff, Steelers' injuries mount

It looks like Peyton Manning will be the healthiest quarterback in Denver this weekend. His counterpart is nursing a sprained right shoulder and his backup a sprained right knee.

"I obviously haven't played a ton here in the last few weeks," Manning said Wednesday. "I needed that time in order to get healthy certain parts of my body. At the same time, other parts of your body take advantage of that, right? Not getting hit and not getting pounded on, you try to take advantage of that and feel better for it."

Manning, who missed the equivalent of seven weeks with a left foot injury, makes his first start since Nov. 15 when the Broncos (12-4) host the sixth-seeded Steelers (11-6) on Sunday.

Ben Roethlisberger promises he'll do everything he can to be there for the Steelers. He was injured on a sack by Cincinnati



Peyton Manning will make his first start in over two months this Sunday against the Steelers.

DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

linebacker Vontaze Burfict in the second half of Pittsburgh's 18-16 wild-card win.

Steelers All-Pro wide receiver Antonio Brown remains in the NFL's concussion protocol, and starting running back DeAngelo Williams is still a long shot to return from a right foot injury. So the Steelers could be without their top rusher, receiver and passer against the NFL's No. 1 defence. Brock Osweiler was injured against San Diego two weeks ago before Manning's epic cameo secured the AFC's top seed and earned him his starting job back.

Osweiler worked on the side with strength and conditioning coach Luke Richesson on Wednesday while rookie Trevor Siemian split snaps with Manning. Coach Gary Kubiak said he anticipates Osweiler being healthy enough to serve as Manning's backup against Pittsburgh, however. Roethlisberger sat out practice Wednesday with QBs Landry Jones and Michael Vick sharing snaps for the Steelers.

"I want to be out there (Sunday), unless I'm going to hurt the team," Roethlisberger said. "If you can't throw the ball 25, 30 yards downfield, I think you're



I needed that time in order to get healthy certain parts of my body.

Denver QB Peyton Manning

hurting your team. So, I don't think we put ourselves in that situation. But if we can find any way possible to get out there, whether it's with pain medicine, whatever it is, if I can deal with the pain and make plays, even if I have to be in a lot of pain the next day, then I'll deal with it."

Manning is healthy enough to run Kubiak's offence from under centre like he did on 40 per cent of his snaps against San Diego. He mostly worked out of the pistol or shotgun formations earlier this season when he was dealing with a torn plantar fascia in his left foot. "I think we do a good job when we can do everything we have in our playbook, receiver Emmanuel Sanders said. We go in the shotgun, we go under centre, Peyton's foot is healthy so we can do under centre, do anything we need to do." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OTHER NEWS

• Bronco Demaryius Thomas is trying to get his mother to Denver so she can see him play football for the first time. Katina Smith was released from federal prison last summer when President Barack Obama commuted her sentence on drug trafficking charges.

It was part of the president's push to reduce the prison population of non-violent offenders.

 New England Patriots defensive lineman Chandler Jones is keeping a low profile in the week after he was taken to the hospital

with an unspecified medical emergency. The Pro

The Pro Bowl selection has not missed practice since show-



Chandler Jones GETTY IMAGES

ing up at a police station requesting help. But Jones was not present on Wednesday during the team's media availability.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PREMIER LEAGUI

Leicester joint leaders after Gunners held in Anfield thriller



Liverpool's Joe Allen, centre, is mobbed after scoring a 90thminute equalizer against Arsenal. PAUL ELLIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Arsenal conceded a 90thminute equalizer at Liverpool to lose its outright lead at the top of the Premier League on Wednesday, and surprise challenger Leicester won 1-0 at Tottenham.

Only a superior goal difference is keeping Arsenal above Leicester after the 3-3 draw at Anfield, while the London club remains three points clear of third-place Manchester City — which endured a goalless stalemate at home at Everton.

Tottenham still occupies the

last Champions League qualifying spot, but its grip on fourth place in the league is loosening — with West Ham now just one point behind in fifth.

A late equalizer also deprived Chelsea of victory, with the champions' revival under new coach Guus Hiddink being slowed by a 2-2 draw at home to West Bromwich Albion.

An end-to-end match at Anfield that started in the rain and finished in the snow got a fitting conclusion when substitute Joe Allen steered home the late volley that salvaged a point for Liverpool.

Four goals were scored in 15 frantic minutes in the first half, with Roberto Firmino twice giving Liverpool the lead only for Aaron Ramsey and Olivier Giroud to bring Arsenal level.

There was more drama in south Wales with six goals — half from Jermain Defoe's hat trick — as Sunderland swept to a 4-2 victory over 10-man Swansea.

Southampton secured only its second league win in nine

games by beating Watford 2-0 with goals by Shane Long and Dusan Tadic.

Stoke moved up to seventh after a 3-1 win over Norwich, which had to play for an hour with 10 men after Gary O'Neil hacked down Stoke's Ibrahim Affellay for a straight red card.

Jon Walters struck four minutes into the second half, Norwich levelled through Jonny Howson but Joselu restored Stoke's lead before Ryan Bennett's own goal ended it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



IN BRIEF

FIFA fires Blatter's top aide

FIFA has fired Jerome Valcke for the second time, cutting ties with the secretary general four months after he was suspended while under investigation for wrongdoing at the scandal-scarred governing body. The Frenchman was suspended president Sepp Blatter's top aide.

Valcke, whose main duty at FIFA was overseeing organization of the World Cup, climbed the ranks after being re-hired despite being fired the previous year over his role in a sponsorship controversy.

Ex-NFLer found dead in cell

California prison officials say former NFL running back Lawrence Phillips has been found dead in his prison cell, and they suspect suicide.

Officials say guards at Kern Valley State Prison found the 40-year-old Phillips unresponsive in his cell shortly after midnight Wednesday. He was pronounced dead about 1:30 a.m.

He had been in segregation since April 2013 after he was suspected of killing his cellmate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Real invites young arson survivor to meet team Real Madrid says it has in-

Real Madrid says it has invited a young Palestinian boy who is the sole survivor of a West Bank arson attack last summer to visit the team and meet star player Cristiano

Team spokesman Raul Serrano Quevedo said Wednesday that the team agreed to host the boy after receiving a request from the Palestinian Embassy. Ahmad Dawabshe who is five, is still recovering in an Israeli hospital from the July 31 fire that killed his parents. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chargers have option to join Rams after rejection

Mayor of San Diego Kevin Faulconer says the NFL's rejection of the Chargers' plans to build a stadium in Carson gives both sides the opportunity for a fresh start in what has been a bruising saga in San Diego.

The Chargers walked away from talks with city and county leaders in June. While the NFL owners rejected their plans to build a stadium with the rival Raiders, they gave the Chargers the option to join the Rams in Los Angeles.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metr@PLAY Thursday, January 14, 2016

RECIPE Ginger Pork Noodles



Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh For Metro Canada

This light and brothy pasta marks a fresh break from your same-old pasta bolognese. And the bright snap peas remind us that spring will come eventually.

Ready in Prep time: 20 minutes

Serves 4

Ingredients

- 250 g rigatoni or egg noodles
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- •1 cooking onion, chopped • 1/2 cup mushrooms, chopped
- 500 g ground pork
- 8 cloves garlic, minced
- · 2 Tbsp ginger, minced
- Salt and pepper
- •1 cup sugar snap peas (or other crunch green)

2 1/2 cups chicken stock

• 2 Tbsp spring onions, chopped •1 Tbsp fresh cilantro

Directions

1. Make pasta according to instructions and set aside.

- 2. Heat olive oil in a wok or deep skillet over medium heat. Soften chopped onion for 3 minutes. Add mushrooms, and once softened add minced pork.
- 3. After pork is cooked add garlic and ginger. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Stir and cook for a couple of minutes, then add sugar snap peas. Pour stock over pork mixture, which will make it soup-y. Add chopped spring/green onion and stir until blended. Ladle over the noodles and garnish with cilantro.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Pomp 6. Audi models 9. Q. "What Beatles song goes 'Treasure these few words...'?" A. "It's known ' . . Love You'." 14. "Big improvement!": 4 wds. 17. One of the National Gallery of Canada's collections: 2 wds. 18. Obscure 20. Hairstyling goo 21. Ancient war god 22. Here: French 23. Do the foxtrot 27. Title for a Miss, in Madrid [abbr.] 29. Music trio. e.a. 32. Back 33. Crispy appetizers topped with cheese: 2 wds. 37. Tavern drink 40. First three words of a hoping-to-berescued person's promise to his or herself... 41. Director Spike 42. Canadian politician like Thomas Mulcair: 2 wds. 44. Leg joint 45. Time off, slang-style 46. Pinnacle 50. Dwells on 52. American battleship letters 55. Website's main page 57. Type of bird

59. 'Proverb' suffix

60. "From here

17 18 19 20 30 44 59 60 65

.": 2 wds. 61. Higher food costs mean it will be more expensive for this in 2016: 2 wds. 66. British actor who played Chief Inspector Armand Gamache in "Still Life: A Three Pines Mystery", a

2013 TV adaptation of Canadian author Louise Penny's work: 2 wds. 67. Articulate 68. Art Garfun kel's partner ...his initials-sharers 69. Ladies

DOWN

aram

6. Theme

1. __ Sketch 2. Sunday performers 3. Visiting-a-planet craft 4. Certify 5. Literary monowinter-cold vacations: 2 wds. 8. Sun. address 9. Ventilated 10. Canadian band with the 1972 hit "Wildflower" 11. coat 12. Lady's man

7. Escaping-the-

13. TV Cousin 15. Nero's 2051 16. Time delay 24. Mr. Peart of Rush 25. Tapdancer's prop 26. Gaelic 28. Cap-_-_ (From head to toe) 30. Mix 31. Explosive star 34. Beatles: "Being for the Bene-35. Common noun suffix 36. __ date (Plan the wedding) 37. Cross of ancient Egypt 38 Ms Horne 39. Water carrier 43. New Wave band, _ Mode 47. Well-being expert Deepak 48. Canadian broadcaster Ms. Deol who famously hosted "Electric Circus" on MuchMusic 49. Marshall Mathers' alias 51. _ campaign (Political ploy, perhaps) 53. Montreal-born humourist Mort, and surnamesakes 54. Swill 56. Bridge builders, briefly 58. Samovar 61. Wildebeest 62. Scoundrel 63. Canuck cap. 64. Baby dog's cry 65. Cooking spray

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20 Push yourself today. Make a special effort to get things done on time and to a high standard. You're sure to be rewarded and employers will think more highly of you in future.

Taurus April 21 - May 21 No matter how much you may desire something once you have got it you will realize it was not what you wanted after all. The fact is you are searching for something deeper, so look inside your head and your heart.

I Gemini May 22 - June 21 Don't just sit and watch the world go by, get out there. Choose your friends carefully but don't get so hung up on other people's worth that you don't leave time to have fun.

Cancer June 22 - July 23 Someone you do business with may use unfair methods and tactics but don't lower your standards to keep up. You may be at a disadvantage in the short-term but over time your reputation will work in your favour.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23 There are so many things you want to do but you're human and have to consider your limits. Focus only on the things that really matter. Talk only to people who matter as well.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23 Get that pent-up emotion out of your system. Try something that makes you work up a sweat, something you can do on your own — team sports could end in fights.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23. Be honest about your feelings today. If you don't deal with bad emotions now they will hold you back later. If you're working on a team you need to get past the personal.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22 If you fear the worst today it will most likely happen. If you expect the best you will be pleasantly surprised. The Sun's link with Mercury, planet of the mind, means that good thoughts willlead to good things.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21 Don't let money matters and other materialistic issues take over your life. Move past worldly things and discover the riches to be enjoyed in feelings that come from the heart.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20 If your sixth sense tells you to stop what you are doing and check the details again, listen to it. Mercury in your sign heightens your perception but may also distort things a little, so err on the side of caution.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19 Cosmic activity in the most sensitive area of your chart suggests that vour behaviour will be criticized today. If you're smart you will heed the protests and change your ways.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20 No matter how weighed down by responsibilities you are you must find ways to get away from your everyday environment. Do only what makes you feel good about yourself.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

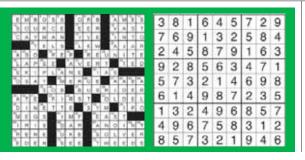
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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



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